

THE 321ST INFANTRY

the 3,708 men of this regiment into soldiers. Germany has been preparing for this war for thirty years. They have been fighting for four years; and while the wonderful war machine they had built up is very badly bent and dented, it is still entitled to military consideration. There isn't a man among you (with a few exceptions, of course) who is not better fitted than the average German you meet.

"You are here assembled to go to the front, to take your place by your brothers, the Allies, in the most glorious time in the history of the present great war. We are not on the eve of success, but we *have* accomplished a great offensive. The first report we had was that we had taken 8,000 prisoners, then 13,000, and General Bailey just told me there were 20,000, and they are still counting. When you realize how much work it takes to make a soldier (and you haven't all graduated yet), you will know that when you lose 20,000 in two days you are melting away too fast. So I say we are moving forward today at a most opportune time.

"One month ago the Germans were marching on Paris with nothing to stop them. Two old regular army American divisions and the Marines who went out to meet them were met by the French and British, who told them the jig was up, the Germans had broken through on a 30 mile front, and the Americans told them, 'To hell with you,' and they *stopped* the Germans. You could have trained as well at Upton or Sevier, but they need you *here*. They are not going to put you into a very active line, but are going to put you into the trenches. In front of the trenches is ground called 'No Man's Land,' but that's our land now. We are going to own that land. We have a lot of young men here and we are going to make the Boche sit up and wish they were at their own firesides, since we can't be at our own. Of course, at first we may make a few mistakes, but we will learn. I have had several officers